



# FIRST THINGS FIRST

## ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD Southeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council

### **Call to Order**

A Regular Meeting of the First Things First Southeast Maricopa Regional Partnership Council was held on March 24, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Family Resource Center, 817 North Country Club Drive, Mesa, Arizona 85201.

Chair David called the meeting to order at approximately 4:06 p.m. welcomed everyone to the meeting and took roll call.

### **Members Present:**

Anna David, Chair  
Detza Van Bogaert, Vice Chair  
Dee Tamminen (via telephone)  
Chris Scarpati  
Sherreis Moreland  
Abigail Conley (via telephone)  
Bill Schultz

### **Members Absent:**

Jack Dillenberg

### **Conflict of Interest**

Chair David asked the Council members if there were conflicts of interest regarding items on this agenda. There were none at this time.

### **Call to the Public**

There was one member of the public who requested to speak at this time.

Michelle Scavo, Program Coordinator at Family SPOT Resource Center, shared information about the organization's Family Fest event to be held on March 28, 2015. She will send an event information flyer to Patty Morris to be distributed to Council members and Grantees.

### **Approval of February 24, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Member Scarpati moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Moreland. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was interrupted due to telephone interference. Moderator and participants disconnected and then called back to rejoin the meeting. This cleared the interference and the meeting proceeded.

Let the record show that Vice Chair Van Bogaert joined the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

### **Preventive Health Collaborative**

Morgan Anderson, Community Outreach Specialist with Preventive Health Collaborative, spoke to the Council about the history and future goals of her organization. The mission of Preventive Health Collaborative is to improve collaboration and community capacity within the preventive health system for young children and their families and they are looking to grow their partnerships in the East Valley. On April 30, 2015 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Partner Forum will be held. Director Melde will send information about this forum to the Council and Grantees.

### **Discussion on Unfunded Approaches**

Director Melde followed up on points raised on improving communication between Quality First Providers and Staff working in Quality First. She looked to Leslie Totten, First Things First Quality First Director, and Pinal Regional Council staff who are convening their Quality First providers.

- Quality First – The length of time for a one to two star provider to be assessed is a 14 month cycle. A three to five star provider is a 24 – 27 month cycle. The provider can request to be assessed two months earlier.
- Quality First Academy was launched. It invites those working in Quality First to enhance current knowledge and create consistent messaging, and connects the staff with more resources.
- Pinal Regional Council meets with their Quality First providers every other month. They have productive conversation and share curriculum and tips with one another. They have now expanded the networking meeting to all child care providers in the region regardless of Quality First participation and are inviting coaches and assessors to the meeting.

Vice Chair Van Bogaert shared about the Quality First Academy since she participated through her work. She is learning ways to work with the providers so that everyone understands their roles.

Member Moreland enjoys the monthly newsletter from Quality First and would like to see the newsletter address small adjustment recommendations that providers can make to improve their program. She gave an example of a program issue at her preschool that was solved with open communication.

Director Melde will continue to give the higher level issues discussed to the appropriate Quality First personnel and bring feedback to the Council.

Based on the discussion, the Council feels there are good supports in place to improve communication in Quality First. The Council will not add any unfunded approaches specific to Quality First.

#### **Director Mentoring Discussion**

The Director of Education Services for Southwest Institute for Families and Children, Cathy Otto, announced that they will not be moving forward with the grant in SFY16. She thanked the Council for their support throughout the years. Ms. Otto shared the successes and challenges the Institute had encountered.

Chair David asked the Council to think about how to reallocate the \$160,000 awarded for this strategy and asked the Council if they would like to form a subcommittee to bring recommendations to the Council. After discussion, Chair David designated Member Moreland to chair the committee with Vice Chair Van Bogaert and Cathy Otto as members. The subcommittee will be meet prior to May 4, 2015.

#### **Regional Director Update**

Director Melde had the following updates for the Council.

- Care Coordination – Based on the Quality Assurance site visit, a Corrective Action Plan was developed in collaboration with Arizona Academy of Pediatrics to ensure they are moving forward with implementing Care Coordination services that align with the expectation outlined in the Standard of Practice.
- Council Vacancies – The recommendation for Parent representative will go to the First Things First Board on April 14, 2015. Philanthropy seat is still open. Member Maggie Pfaffenberger resigned her At Large seat. Give potential Council member names to Director Melde.
- Quality First – Southeast Maricopa Region now has a five star school. The Council discussed ways to recognize schools when the next star rating is achieved. Some of the ideas discussed were the Council visit the school to present a plaque, invite the school Director and staff to a Council meeting for recognition, and issue a press release about the school.
- Future Agenda Items – There will be no April Council meeting. The May 12, 2015 Council meeting may

not be a good date for everyone to attend. Director Melde will send a doodle poll so another date can be selected. The Council was asked to think about the best way to meet with the Grantees. Director Melde will send an email to the Council for their ideas.

- Community Outreach Coordinator John Taylor's position with First Things First is open for applications. A new Coordinator is expected to be named by the end of April.

#### **Council Member Updates and Announcements**

There were no updates or announcements.

#### **Next Meeting**

Date to be determined.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:39 p.m.

#### ***Telephone Procedures***

The meeting room telephone was used for members participating by telephone. Speakers physically present at the meeting spoke into microphones to ensure that members on the telephone could hear. Members on the telephone were identified when they spoke for the benefit of those physically present at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted on this 6th Day of May, 2015.

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Anna David, Chair

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Patty Morris, Administrative Assistant II